

REMARKS

Minor amendments have been made to the specification to correct reference numerals and grammatical inconsistencies. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-19 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 2 and 12 have been amended. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

Applicants respectfully request that action with respect to the Examiner's provisional double rejection in light of co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/601,339 be held in abeyance until such rejection is the only rejection remaining in one of the applications. The Applicants will consider further action at that time.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over LaPointe et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,806,921) in view of Jackson et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,365,836). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to include, "wherein said clutch mechanism comprises a drive member coupled to said drive shaft for rotation therewith and a follower member coupled to said drive rod for rotation therewith." Since neither LaPointe et al. nor Jackson et al. discloses such a clutch mechanism structure, nor do they together teach such a clutch mechanism structure, Applicants now believe Claim 1

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached "Replacement Sheets" of drawings include changes to Figures 1 and 8. The attached "Replacement Sheets," which include Figures 1 and 8, replace the original sheets including Figures 1 and 8.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

to be in condition for allowance. Likewise, due to their ultimate dependency from Claim 1, Claims 2-9 are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 4, 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over LaPointe et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,806,921) in view of Jackson et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,365,836) and in further view of Komorowski et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,435,621). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Because of Applicants' amendment of Claim 1, Applicants believe Claims 4, 5 and 6 are now in condition for allowance.

DRAWINGS

Figures 1 and 8 have been amended. In Figures 1 and 8, numeral "48" has replaced one of the numerals "46," since numeral "46" was inadvertently duplicated. Also, in Figure 8, numerals 10' and 14' have replaced numerals 10 and 14, respectively.


CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt

and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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